



Utah Agriculture

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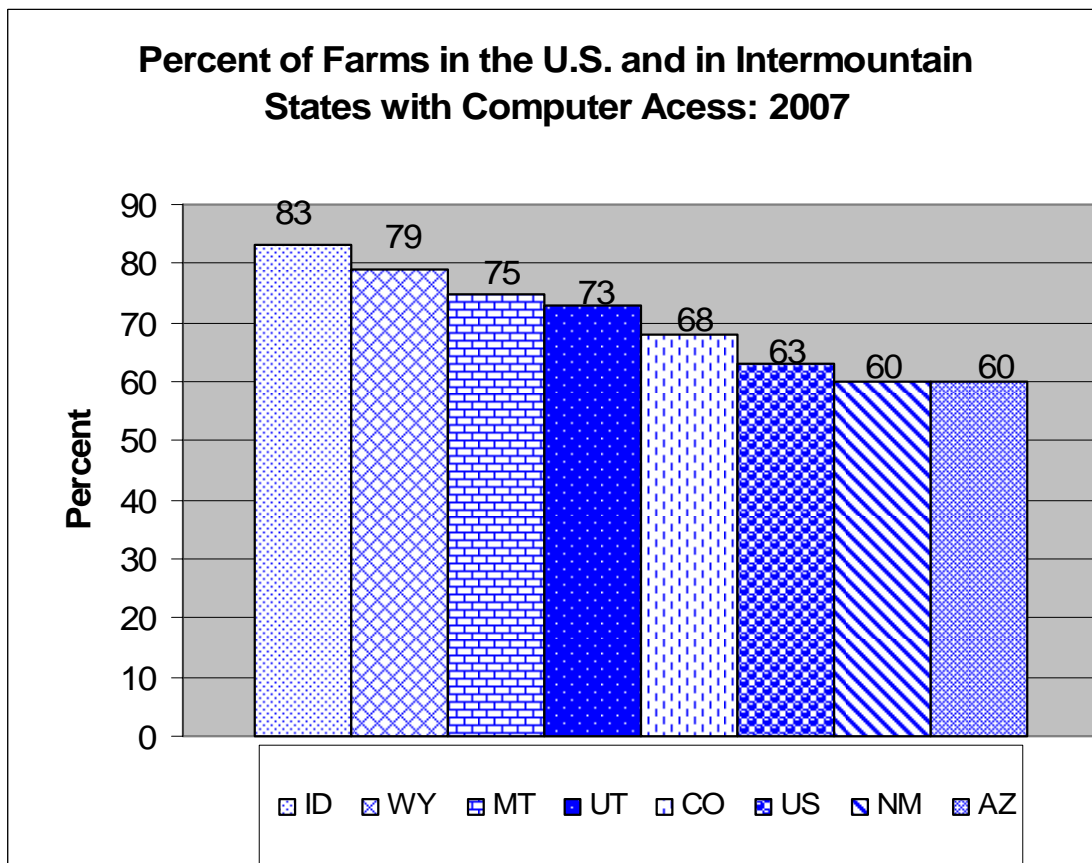
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Farm Computer Usage and Ownership

Seventy three percent of Utah farms had access to a computer in 2007 according to a recent survey conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Utah ranked fourth among intermountain states in farm computer access. Idaho led intermountain states with 83 percent while New Mexico and Arizona had the fewest farms with computer access at 60 percent. The U.S. average was 63 percent.

Sixty five percent of Utah farmers had access to the internet and 17 percent purchased inputs over the internet or conducted marketing activities. Dial up was the most common type of internet service with 31 percent of Utah farmers using it. Twenty seven percent of Utah farmers used DSL, an increase of 15 percent from 2005. Other farmers used cable, satellite, wireless, or some other type of internet connection.

For further information about Utah and National farm computer usage and ownership go to www.nass.usda.gov or call 1(800) 747-8522.



Farm Labor

MOUNTAIN REGION II: (includes Utah, Nevada, and Colorado): During the week of July 8 -14, 2007 there were 18,000 workers hired by farm operators in the region. All hired workers (excluding Agricultural Service Workers) were paid an average wage of \$9.85 per hour, down 12 cents from April 2007 and 19 cents lower than the national average. Field workers received \$9.25 per hour on average, up 9 cents from April 2007. Livestock workers received \$9.85 per hour, up 10 cents from April 2007.

UNITED STATES: There were 1,205,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 8-14, 2007, up 1 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 847,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 358,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.04 per hour during the July 2007 reference week, up 32 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.31 per hour, up 38 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$9.80 per hour compared with \$9.49 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.44 per hour, was up 37 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 41.6 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 1 percent from a year ago.

**Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Region
and United States, July 8-14, 2007 ¹**

U.S. and Region	Hired							
	Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed		Number of Hours Worked	Type of Worker			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
		150 Days or More	149 Days or Less		Field	Livestock	Field & Lvstk Combined	
	1,000	1,000	1,000	Hours per Week	Dollars per Hour	Dollars per Hour	Dollars per Hour	Dollars per Hour
Mountain I ²	22	15	7	43.4	8.36	9.22	8.70	9.20
Mountain II ³	18	14	4	40.5	9.25	9.85	9.45	9.85
Mountain III ⁴	22	19	3	45.0	8.34	9.65	8.80	9.47
US	847	600	247	41.6	9.31	9.80	9.44	10.04

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers. ² Mountain I - Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. ³ Mountain II - Colorado, Nevada and Utah. ⁴ Mountain III - Arizona and New Mexico.

Agricultural Farm Land Values

UTAH: Average farm real estate values, including land and buildings, were estimated at \$2,550 per acre on January 1, 2007 up from \$2,070 on January 1, 2006. Utah cropland was valued at \$4,080 per acre on January 1, 2007, year, up \$430 from 2006, and up \$1,020 from 2005. Pastureland was valued at \$1,350 per acre on January 1, 2007, up \$190 an acre from 2006 and up \$660 per acre from 2005.

UNITED STATES: Farm real estate values, a measurement of the value of all land and buildings on farms, averaged \$2,160 per acre on January 1, 2007, up 14 percent from 2006. The \$2,160 per acre is a record high and \$260 more than a year earlier. Both cropland and pasture values for 2007 are record highs. Cropland values rose by 13 percent to \$2,700 per acre, up from the previous high of \$2,390 in 2006. Pasture value rose by 16 percent to \$1,160 per acre. The increase in farm real estate values continues to be driven by a combination of many factors, which include strong commodity prices and farm programs, outside investments, favorable interest rates and tax incentives, and continued commercial and residential development. Livestock prices and recreational use remain the predominant influences that increase pasture land values. Regional increases in the average value of farm real estate ranged from 9 percent in the Southeast region to 18 percent in the Mountain region. The highest farm real estate values remained in the Northeast region, where development pressure continued to push the average value to \$5,000 per acre. The Northern Plains region had the lowest farm real estate value, at \$961 per acre, up 14 percent from the previous year. The Lake region had the highest percentage increase in cropland value, up 15.7 percent from 2006. In the Corn Belt region cropland values rose 15 percent, to \$3,720 per acre. The Southern Plains region also increased 15 percent from the previous year, to \$1,330 per acre. The Pacific region had the highest average percentage increase in pasture value, 29 percent above 2006. In the Southern Plains and Mountain regions, which account for more than half of the pasture in the U.S., pasture values per acre increased 25 percent and 18 percent, respectively.

Agricultural Prices

Utah: Mid-August 2007 prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers for baled alfalfa hay was up \$7.00 per ton from last month, and up \$25.00 per ton from last year. Other hay, at \$118.00 per ton, was up \$13.00 from July 2007, and was \$37.00 higher than August 2006. Barley was up 9 cents from July, and was up \$1.08 cents from August 2006. The average price of all milk purchased in August 2007 from Utah farmers was \$21.70 per hundred wt. (Cwt) remained the same as July 2007, and up 80.8 percent from August 2006.

United States: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 139 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 2 points (1.4 percent) from July. The Crop Index is down 2 points (1.4 percent) and the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (0.7 percent). Producers received lower prices for onions, corn, broilers, and eggs. Higher commodity prices were received for wheat, cattle, strawberries, and broccoli. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of cattle, grapes, calves, and sweet corn offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, milk, and broilers. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 20 points (17 percent) from August 2006. The Food Commodities Index, at 142, decreased 1 point (0.7 percent) from last month but increased 19 points (15 percent) from August 2006.

Average Prices Received by Farmers ¹

Commodity	Utah						United States					
	Barley ²		Alfalfa Hay ³ Baled		Other Hay ³ Baled		Barley ²		Alfalfa Hay Baled ³		Other Hay Baled ³	
Month	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
January	(⁴)	3.65	95.00	105.00	80.00	79.00	2.42	3.03	96.40	115.00	84.30	102.00
February	2.11	3.91	100.00	107.00	85.00	81.00	2.57	3.10	99.20	117.00	83.20	105.00
March	2.17	3.70	96.00	113.00	85.00	87.00	2.71	3.10	100.00	120.00	86.60	108.00
April	2.29	3.18	106.00	113.00	90.00	85.00	2.67	3.07	110.00	128.00	93.20	113.00
May	2.20	3.72	98.00	120.00	77.00	90.00	2.97	3.12	117.00	144.00	95.80	116.00
June	(⁴)	(⁴)	99.00	121.00	87.00	92.00	2.78	3.30	115.00	137.00	90.10	111.00
July	2.36	3.38	104.00	123.00	80.00	105.00	2.71	3.45	113.00	137.00	89.30	113.00
August	2.39	3.47	105.00	130.00	81.00	118.00	2.70	3.57	110.00	137.00	91.50	118.00
September	2.58		95.00		71.00		2.56		112.00		93.00	
October	2.95		99.00		71.00		2.76		112.00		93.80	
November	2.72		99.00		75.00		2.92		109.00		98.10	
December	3.40		105.00		79.00		2.95		112.00		99.30	

¹ July 2007 is mid-month. ² Dollars per bushel. ³ Dollars per ton. ⁴ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

Commodity ¹	Utah		United States	
	All Milk		All Milk	
Month	2006	2007	2006	2007
January	14.00	14.50	14.50	14.50
February	13.70	14.80	13.50	14.90
March	12.70	15.60	12.60	15.60
April	11.60	16.00	12.10	16.60
May	11.50	17.80	11.90	18.00
June	11.40	20.10	11.90	20.20
July	11.40	21.20	11.80	21.70
August	11.50		12.00	21.70 ²
September	13.10		12.90	
October	13.30		13.50	
November	13.80		13.90	
December	14.10		14.10	

¹ Dollars per hundred wt.(CWT) ² preliminary

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Utah State Fair

September 6-16, 2007 are the 11 days this year for you and your family to FILL UP ON FUN at the annual Utah State Fair! With a total of 365 days each year, only 11 of them are overflowing with cattle, carnival, corn dogs, cowboys and concerts – so get ready Now for this once-a-year chance to get your fill of Fair Food and FUN! Welcome to the Utah State Fair!

Manufactured Dairy Products

UTAH: **Total cheese** output (excluding cottage cheese) in June 2007, at 8.5 million pounds, was 7.4 percent above June 2006, but 6.9 percent below May 2007. **Hard ice cream** production at 2.8 million gallons, was 6.7 percent below June 2006, but was 0.7 percent above May 2007.

UNITED STATES: **Total cheese** output (excluding cottage cheese) was 790 million pounds, 0.8 percent below June 2006 and 3.7 percent below May 2007. **Italian type cheese** production totaled 338 million pounds, 2.9 percent above June 2006 but 3.3 percent below May 2007. **American type cheese** production totaled 316 million pounds, 4.6 percent below June 2006 and 4.6 percent below May 2007. **Butter** production was 110 million pounds, 9.3 percent above June 2006 but 11.2 percent below May 2007. **Hard Ice Cream** production at 89.5 million gallons was down 2.7 percent from June 2006, but up 5.0 percent from May 2007.

Manufactured Dairy Production – June 2006-2007 with Comparisons

Product	Utah			United States		
	June 2006	May ¹ 2007	June 2007	June 2006	May ¹ 2007	June 2007
1,000 Pounds						
Total Cheese	7,885	9,095	8,467	796,104	820,429	789,973
1,000 Gallons						
Hard ice cream	2,958	2,741	2,760	91,954	85,254	89,499

¹ Revised.

Livestock Slaughter

UTAH: **Commercial red meat production** totaled 38.9 million pounds in July 2007, down 3.2 percent from July of the previous year. **Cattle slaughter** in Utah for July 2007 totaled 48,800 head, 4.7 percent below a year earlier. The average live weight was 1,272 pounds, up 4 pounds from July 2006. **Hog slaughter** totaled 5,500 head up 96.0 percent from the previous year. The average live weight was 188 pounds, up 12 pounds from the previous year. **Sheep and lamb slaughter** during July 2007 totaled 2,400 head, remained the same as the previous year. Average live weight, at 137 pounds, was up 6 pounds from the previous year.